

**From:** Dunnham@aol.com@inetgw  
**To:** Microsoft ATR  
**Date:** 1/26/02 7:41pm  
**Subject:** Microsoft Settlement

Dear Department of Justice; Attorney General Ashcroft,

I am upset and dismayed at the cave in by the Justice Department in the Microsoft Antitrust Settlement.

Microsoft is clearly monopolistic and using this power, has hurt competing businesses and consumers. Including Internet Explorer in its Operating System, Windows, Microsoft damaged Netscape and it intended to damage Netscape. Internet Explorer is application software, not operating system software. Microsoft has done this with quite a few programs and has, as a result, harmed the software companies with which it competes. This is unfair business practice and must be stopped. Your settlement won't stop this behavior.

Consumers have been hurt because companies that would offer better products, won't do so if a similar product is offered by Microsoft in Windows.

When Bill Gates says he wants to compete and add value to his Windows operating system, what he is really saying and what he really means is "Microsoft wants to restrict to market by driving competing firms out of business, thereby driving the price of Microsoft software up or at least not reducing the inflated price of the Windows system."

The Windows XP operating system is the latest attempt to gain market share and restrict competition. The use of the Passport system and other tracking software invades the privacy of consumers and allows Microsoft to monitor the habits of consumers so that Microsoft can sell more products and direct consumers to Microsoft "partners" at the expense of other companies. Microsoft's restriction of the opening interface screen is an example of this behavior.

Microsoft should be fined, prohibited from adding products like Internet Explorer to the operating system and Microsoft should be broken up into 2 companies - an operating system software company and an application software company. Anything less will allow Microsoft to dominate and restrict the software and hardware market to the point where development and innovation will be slowed down and may be even stopped. This is not in the interest of the computer industry or the computing public. This will only serve Microsoft's interest of complete domination of the computer and entertainment marketplace.

Sincerely, Richard Farnham

